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All MSS. and letters relating thereto should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, *Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 2702.]*

Notes and News.

The Mystery Vote.

The daily press is much exercised about what is called "The Mystery of the Women's Vote." It seems to perplex some people that the majority of women have not either fallen immediately into the recognised men's parties nor set up a party of their own. This is not, however, a surprise to those who have worked for women's suffrage and who understand the distrust and aversion which the abuses of the party system have raised in the minds of women. In one sense it is doubtful whether there is really any such thing as "The Women's Vote": women differ from each other as much as men do in politics, as well as everything else; they will vote differently at the election. The women candidates who have come forward differ from each other as widely in their political convictions as any group of the same number of men candidates that could be selected; they resemble each other only in the fact that nearly all of them call themselves "Independent," and preserve a certain detachment from the party system. It is a rash thing to make any generalisations about the sexes, but if we did risk one, it would be that, as George Meredith pointed out a generation ago, women in politics are more practical than men. Most of the women voters at this election undoubtedly have their minds very firmly fixed on certain practical questions, such as housing reform, and one of their chief troubles is that on questions like these the candidates who address them do, for the most part, offer them very much the same thing. Their choice, then, will depend not so much on who makes the best promises, as on who is the most likely to carry them out in a prompt and thorough manner. It is much to be hoped that they will make it with the records of their candidates and of political parties in their minds; and that perplexity will not prevent them from voting at all.

Mr. Lloyd George.

Meanwhile, all the political parties are making special appeals to the women electors. Mr. Lloyd George addressed a meeting of women electors at Queen's Hall on December 10th. Mrs. Fawcett, who explained that she was present in her private capacity and not in any way representing the N.U.W.S.S., said that less than a fortnight after the time when he became Prime Minister in 1916 Mr. Lloyd George had told her that he was ready and eager to go forward in the cause of women's suffrage; and that in the midst of the throes of the greatest war in history the Government had found time to introduce and carry through the greatest Reform Bill that had ever been passed in this country. Mr. Lloyd George himself said: "I am an old believer in women's suffrage. I have supported it for at least twenty or thirty years, and nothing gave me greater satisfaction than to find, when the opportunity came, that I was able to render some assistance, and to cast some influence in the scale which enabled the Government to introduce a measure of woman suffrage into the House of Commons. Women for the first time have got the vote. Up to this election they have had no direct voice in the selection of governments or of legislatures. Now there are between six and seven millions of women who have got a direct vote and influence in the fashioning of the legislation and the administration, upon which the lives of women depend as much as those of men, during the next five years. The future depends very largely upon whether they are going to exercise that vote, and how they are going to exercise it." Later he said: "I agree with Mrs. Fawcett that women must demand equality—equality having regard to all physical conditions, equality in education, equal pay for equal work, equality in the marriage laws," and in reply to a question he said that he should like to see women as solicitors and barristers. He ended by telling the women that nothing would be so disastrous as for the women not to vote at all; it would be even more disastrous than to vote wrong.

Mr. Asquith.

Mr. Asquith, addressing a women's meeting at Lincoln, dwelt on the great responsibilities of the new electors. Women as well as men must help to achieve "a peace in which the victors have no aggrandisement or selfish aims or objects for themselves; but in which they regard themselves as trustees, not merely for their own countries, but for the whole future of the civilised world. Women as well as men must help to achieve a new order of society at home in which every man, every woman, and every child born on English soil shall have the freest and most unhampered access to the opportunities—intellectual, moral, social, and material—of our common national life." The new social order described by Mr. Asquith is exactly what suffragists have been long working for. We are glad that Mr. Asquith has realised in these last years that such an ideal cannot be achieved by men alone. Many Liberals have known from the first that women's suffrage was an essential part of Liberalism. Mr. Asquith, who helped the cause so much by his conversion at a critical moment, is now, we believe, of their opinion.

Mr. Henderson.

The Labour leaders have had no need for conversion. As individuals and as party leaders they have stood by the cause from the first. Suffragist women can never forget how the Labour Party supported the Conciliation Bill, when many people less democratic than they were finding in its limited nature an excuse for opposing it. The N.U.W.S.S., at its last Council meeting, sent a message of hearty thanks to the Labour Party for their steady and consistent support of women's suffrage in times past. Since then the Labour Party has again taken every opportunity of making specific demands for the complete emancipation of women. Mrs. Fawcett might well express indignation on hearing that it had been stated in Mr. Henderson's constituency that he and the Parliamentary Labour Party had asked for manhood suffrage to the exclusion of women. "The exact contrary is the fact," says Mrs. Fawcett, in a letter to Mr. Henderson. "All through our struggle for women's suffrage we received invaluable help from you and your party, and I feel personally that it is difficult to overestimate the value of the generous support ungrudgingly given at every stage of our battle for representation." All suffragists who have worked long in the movement will remember the many critical moments at which Mr. Henderson, Mr. J. H. Thomas, and other tried Labour friends have come to the assistance of the Cause at great personal inconvenience, and sometimes when it appeared to be very much against their party interests. They have loved it and struggled for it, as one of the greatest of political ideals, just as the suffragist women have cared and striven themselves.

WOMEN, USE YOUR VOTES!

SATURDAY, December 14th, is polling day—nearly twenty million British men and women will have the right of recording votes for Parliamentary candidates, and we earnestly hope that large numbers of them will use it. We take this opportunity to urge all women voters who read this paper to go to the polls; it is a duty, and no difficulty should be allowed to stand in the way. The difficulties are, we know, very great. The election has come almost as a surprise, at a time when many of our old political standards have been shaken, and many of our old political demarcations effaced. Numbers of voters find themselves in constituencies where rival candidates offer practically the same programme of reforms, numbers of others can get no satisfactory statement from any of their candidates about the objects they have most at heart. Even those who have been long and passionately interested in politics will, in many cases, find that at this election it is very hard to vote. For others it will be even harder. Such a number of political objects are put forward, and among them are many which, although they are expressed in high-sounding words, convey even less positive meaning to the woman-in-the-home than they do to the man-in-the-street. The election, moreover, comes at a bad time for housewives (as it comes at a bad time for soldiers); their domestic labours have been rather increased than diminished by the cessation of hostilities; good food is just as difficult to get, prices are just as high, practical life is just as complicated as it was three months ago. The housewife has to spend just as much laborious effort as she did in keeping her home going, and she wants to make a thousand fresh efforts for the husband or son whom she may now, at last, hope to see home. Naturally, she is absorbed in "getting his home ready for him." And then, there is the influenza epidemic; who can think about a vote?

Nevertheless, we earnestly hope that many women *will* think about votes, and will remember that the future of their children, their homes, and their returning soldiers does, to some extent, depend on their intelligent use of the newly-granted political weapon. The new Parliament is to be elected in a hurry, but it may rule us for many years to come. It will be the Parliament that will criticise and influence, if not make, the peace. It will be the Parliament that will have to tackle reconstruction. It may do immense good or immense harm; and whichever it does it may be with us for some time; let us not fail each to take our twenty-millionth share in choosing it!

THE COMMON CAUSE is a non-party paper, and cannot therefore tell anybody *how* to vote. The only general advice we can give is this: Let every woman voter consider what kind of an England or Scotland or Ireland or Wales she wants in the future, and what kind of men and women she wants to govern her; then let her consider the policy of the great parties as set forth in the speeches of Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Henderson and their followers, and in the published programme of the Labour Party; let her also consider the attitude of the candidates in her constituency to these parties, and their individual views as set forth in their election addresses and in the speeches she has heard from them or read in the local paper. If they have been in Parliament before let her learn as much as she can of their Parliamentary record: and let her not forget to enquire what has been their attitude towards women's suffrage. When she has done all this, let her decide as best as she can which of the candidates is most likely to help make the kind of country she wants, and boldly cast her vote for him (or her). It is difficult, but it can be done, and it is every elector's duty to do it.

We have two or three words more of particular advice to suffragist voters. We hope that many of them will have questioned their candidates about the feminist programme of the N.U.W.S.S. Wherever they can conscientiously do so, we trust that they will support the men or women who support that programme. The women candidates nearly all support it; those who are put forward by the N.U.W.S.S. *stand* for it, as well as for the programmes of the three different parties to which they belong. We hope, therefore, that wherever possible suffragists will support them.

We have already in these columns urged the desirability of returning women to Parliament: we urge it again, and we also urge with even more vigour the duty of returning good feminists. We believe that the establishment of real equality between the sexes is one of the reforms which is most important to this country and to the world. We do not therefore make any apology for urging our readers to support the men and women who stand for it—and in doing so, we hope that they will be guided not only by the promises which the candidates make now, but by their record in the past. By their fruits ye shall know them. There are women standing who have worked for women's suffrage all their lives. There are men standing who took part in the suffrage struggle side by side with the women; some helped at the last in the passing of the Representation of the People Act; some helped right through and stood by the women when it was most against their party interest. These last can proudly say now that they have nothing to change and nothing to retract in their attitude towards women. Suffragists can depend on them in the future, as they have depended on them in the past. It would be a misfortune to the great cause of feminism if these tried friends were not returned to Parliament. Let suffragists look to it.

Suffragists, then, have many reasons for using their votes; and we hope that none of them will fail to go to the polling stations. We urge all the other enfranchised women to vote too, and we trust that in spite of all its difficulties a very great proportion of the electors will take part in this election. Our last words as we go to press are: "Vote! Vote! Vote!"

Messages from Women Candidates.

MRS. CORBETT ASHBY (Ladywood, Birmingham).

I would rather you women gave your votes against me than that you should not vote at all. In any case vote "as if on you alone hung the issues of the fray."

MRS. DACRE FOX (Richmond, Surrey).

All women voters have a great responsibility on December 14th. Questions of momentous and far-reaching nature will have to be faced and decided by the new House of Commons, the members of which will have been sent there by women voters and men voters. My message therefore to women voters is to put aside any personal considerations and to give their support to the candidate, no matter what ticket she or he may be labelled with, who is definitely pledged to win the peace.

MRS. MILLICENT MACKENZIE, M.A. (University of Wales).

Women have won the vote, let them see to it that it is used to forward the highest interests of humanity.

MISS VIOLET MARKHAM (Mansfield).

I hope all women will go to the Poll on December 14th and register their votes for clean and honest politics. We want the best of all parties in the new Parliament, and I trust the women's vote will be cast for the best in character, courage, and independence among the candidates without consideration for old party ties and shibboleths.

MRS. JANET McEWAN (Enfield).

It is urgently required that women in general should be stirred from their apathy and led to realise the responsibility upon them to record their votes. There are indications that the poll will be a very small one in proportion to the large electorate. Workers and canvassers are almost unobtainable. This seat might be won by a woman if adequate help could be thrown into the division on Polling Day.

MISS EUNICE MURRAY (Glasgow).

As the only woman candidate nominated in Scotland, I want to place on record my strong appreciation of the sincerity with which my candidature has been accepted. It has been an honest election contest, and I have met no treatment that would not have been dealt out to a man candidate. My opponents are both strong men; and should I be so fortunate as to secure a victory, I shall feel really proud. My woman agent has mapped out the campaign in a masterly fashion; and I have had splendid support.

MISS EMILY PHIPPS, B.A. (Chelsea).

Women of Britain! A door has been opened for you, at the cost of years of toil and suffering; a door which will lead to freedom and justice. Do not, through shyness or indifference, refuse to avail yourself of the hardly won right. This is the most momentous election that has ever taken place. Enter the open door, record your vote thoughtfully, and so do your share in bearing the responsibility for the establishment of a kingdom of righteousness.

MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Brentford and Chiswick).

At the end of a short but very sharp campaign I want to send a cheerful message to readers of THE COMMON CAUSE. I don't know whether I am going to get in, though of course I hope so. But I do know that the ordinary voters, both men and women, take the idea of a woman representative quite calmly. We really are getting at last to the point where women in politics are taken for granted, and this, as all Suffragists knew would be so, is proving itself to the good both of women and of politics.

MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY'S CANDIDATURE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Mrs. Strachey says that what has most struck her in her election work so far is that *it does not matter being a woman.* The electors of Brentford and Chiswick take a woman candidate absolutely as a matter of course, and show neither horror nor surprise; they do not regard her as a phenomenon. Mrs. Strachey has to contend with the difficulties that all new candidates standing for the first time, and in a constituency in which they are not well known, have to encounter, but these are not increased by the fact that she is a woman.

This is the candidate's own testimony. The testimony of residents in the constituency is that she has won her way with great swiftness, and is extremely popular among all those who have had the opportunity of meeting her. The only pity is that the shortness of the time before the election and the fact that the enormous majority of voters in the constituency are absorbed in work, and in preparation for the return of the soldiers and the Peace Christmas make it difficult for many of them to know their new candidate.

Mrs. Strachey's meetings have, however, been well attended, and her Committee Rooms present an aspect of great liveliness. Mrs. Fawcett, Lady Selborne, and other leaders of the women's movement have been down to speak for her, and have been received with enthusiasm.

Mrs. Strachey is an Independent candidate; although she supports the Coalition Government, she has neither asked for nor received the Coalition ticket. This has been given to her opponent, Colonel Morden; but many leading Liberals and Conservatives in the constituency deeply disapprove of him as a candidate, and it is by their express invitation that Mrs. Strachey has come forward. They are enthusiastic about her, and feel that if she is elected she will be a thoroughly good representative of the views and wishes of Brentford and Chiswick. As a worker herself she understands the point of view of the workers, as a married woman with children she understands the point of view of the mothers and housewives. She has also been an organiser of labour and has done political work ever since she grew up, so that, although she is younger than most Parliamentary candidates, she has had an exceptional amount of useful experience. This is the opinion of her supporters in the constituency, and suffragists who have seen Mrs. Strachey's magnificent work for the women's cause, and realise how much she did to get women's suffrage through Parliament, will, of course, be eager to endorse it.

MRS. CORBETT ASHBY'S CANDIDATURE.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby is making many friends and no enemies in her election campaign, and the contest hitherto has proved a model one, conspicuous by the absence of any unpleasant personalities or party detractions on all sides.

Mrs Ashby has been bombarded with questions at her many large and lively meetings, and even more noticeable than her sound and well-informed replies is the frank, straghtforward directness with which she meets enquiries, and clearly shows that her aim is to understand and grapple with difficult problems rather than evade them.

When she cannot agree with an adversary she makes no pretence to do so, and explains her grounds for differing; and the approving comment of one heckler, "She's honest at any rate," was well deserved.

Mrs Ashby is being supported by the Association of Discharged Soldiers, and by the Birmingham Women's Suffrage Society. *Apropos* of her loyalty to the latter cause, and in reply to a question why neither the Liberal nor Unionist Parties when in power, had done much to solve the housing problem, the candidate promptly replied: "Well, as you ask me, I should say it was because neither Party called in the women to help them twenty years sooner"; a repartee which "brought down the house."

The Cinderella of the Professions.

Amidst all the Ministry of Health proposals I have so far seen no reference to the possibility of slipping in a clause ensuring both a minimum wage and a minimum standard of life for all the thousands of nurses without whose constant and devoted services the scheme would be a flat failure from the first. No doubt this is partly because the future position of the voluntary hospitals remains at present ambiguous: apparently they are not to pass at once under direct State control, but are to do more and more work for the State, and receive correspondingly more and more payment for it each year, until they are ultimately and quietly absorbed. And without disputing the fact that many hospitals are extremely well managed at the present time, I think it must be admitted that they will gain enormously both in dignity and usefulness when they no longer have to beg persistently for the charitable public's halfpence. We all admit now that the adequate care of the sick is not a question of charity at all, but an urgent question of plain national duty; and yet our hospitals, and those who serve in them, still go entangled in the faded traditions handed down to us from the days when the whole public health service was in the hands of a few religious orders. Few people, I am sure, realise that the modern hospital nurse is considerably handicapped in her struggle for existence because her profession originated in a nunnery. But this is surely the reason why she is expected to put up with insufficient sleeping accommodation, insufficient food, a purely nominal wage, a vilely uncomfortable and unsuitable working dress prickly with pins and starch, and a list of rules and regulations which would send the ordinary little boarding-school girl into shrieks of derisive laughter. In short, it is vaguely implied that her life must be one of mortification as well as hard work; and that any protest on her part will be regarded as the grossest breach of good behaviour and good taste.

It is quite true that there are hospitals, all honour to them, which have honestly striven for years to improve the position and prospects not only of their own nurses, but of the nursing profession in general. Yet the fact remains that the nurse's lot compares so unfavourably with that of her sisters in other professions—professions in themselves infinitely less fascinating—that it is very difficult indeed to get the right sort of women to take up this very valuable and necessary form of public work. Many women with a real gift for nursing simply cannot afford to enter a hospital as probationers at from £16 to £18 per annum—a sum which will not cover the cost of their civilian clothes, railway fares, postage, &c. (to say nothing of boots and shoes, always a heavy item in a nurse's expenditure) and certainly will not allow them to "help at home" or save up anything for a rainy day. It is commonly argued that this minute salary is justified because the probationer at the same time receives her training; but as the probationer incidentally does all the heaviest work of the wards—and as, moreover, a nurse's training goes on all her life—that argument does not bear examination. A most excellent plan, adopted—and I believe, originated—by the London Hospital, is to give the probationers a short preliminary training in their routine duties of bed-making, the preparation of dressings, &c., in a special building quite apart from the hospital itself, where no patient can suffer from their first inevitable awkwardness, and where it is possible to weed out any young woman who proves herself altogether unfitted for a nurse's duties. If this were the universal custom, the further argument that it is unfair to expect any hospital to undertake the expense of training a girl and paying her a sufficient salary when she might prove a hopeless failure, would also cease to apply.

As things are now, it is almost impossible for a nurse to feel financially independent unless she obtains a matron's post (and that is impossible for the first five or six years) or unless she

takes up private nursing and works "on her own" retaining the full fees. The result is, of course, that the thoughtful, intelligent, responsible woman with no private means must relinquish her hope of becoming a nurse and turn to some less congenial form of employment; whilst the ranks of the profession are continually filled by careless, well-meaning, light-headed young people who are not going to worry over their insufficient pay if at the same time their new work introduces them to a few young men of a slightly higher social standing than their own. And while this goes on it is impossible to expect the authorities at the average hospital to treat their nursing staff as anything but a crowd of rather naughty grown-up schoolgirls.

How far trade unionism may be expected to solve the problem it is difficult to say. Just at present the very eagerness and enthusiasm of the rival unions for nurses appear to the onlooker to produce more friction than progress; and of course it is extremely difficult to cultivate the true trade union spirit amongst the class from which nurses are generally drawn—a class which has been steadily taught for several generations past that trade unions are an invention of the devil. Perhaps some form of State regulation of wages will be found more effective in the first place, and this should certainly be the business of the Ministry of Health; then, with the steady raising of the nurse's status and salary her general capacity for intelligent organisation would rapidly improve.

Madge Mears.

Scottish Women's Hospitals.

The American Unit, so long stationed on the shore of Lake Ostrovo, has now been advanced to Vranja, in the heart of Serbia. The workers will have many difficulties to contend with. There is almost no food in the country, sugar, coffee, and tea costing respectively 15s., £2, and £2 5s. per lb. A preliminary visit was paid to the new station by Dr. Emslie and Mrs. Green, and immediately on their return to Ostrovo arrangements were made for transferring the whole unit. Mrs. Green writes:—

"We were a most imposing-looking 'convoy' when we started with two touring cars, small Ford van, three ambulances, two Seldens and the G.M.C. lorry, with so many sisters in each, with the bare necessaries of life in their haversacks, and food enough for a five days' journey. Each car carried a small Serbian flag, which we had made, and the leading car had a small Union Jack. All our sisters were in splendid health, and I felt very thankful, as Spanish Influenza was very bad here, and I was anxious that they should all keep fit. All the cars went splendidly except the old Selden lorry, which gave us a lot of trouble, and kept us from going further than Monastir the first day, which was rather disappointing. In Monastir I met a man who had 'treked' through Albania with us, and we had shared our food with him, so he was anxious to help us. He was running a Y.M.C.A. Canteen, and he gave us a place behind his tents for our waggons to stand for the night; his men made tea for the whole formidable party, and gave us tables and benches, so that we could have our supper in comfort. I must tell you that each member of our Unit was allowed to carry a small haversack, containing necessaries, such as pyjamas, change of clothing, etc., also a camp bed, ground sheet, pillow, and two blankets, so that we were able to be quite comfortable. We were lucky enough to have lovely moonlight for our journey, and it was rather a wonderful sight to see our rows of little beds with the sisters sleeping placidly, while a few yards away guns, ammunition, and soldiers of many nationalities passed along in a steady stream. We were up bright and early, and ready to start when we found that the old Selden refused to move, and we had finally to leave it behind, hoping it would come on next day. The old Selden was acting as ration cart, so we hurried to get each car rationed, and after some delay we started. We were in the leading car, and we were doing so well that Dr. Emslie suggested that we should hurry on and try to get somewhere for the Unit to sleep at Veles. In all the villages through which we passed we found Serbian flags flying, and everyone looking relieved and expectant, as, of course, the Serbs were hurrying back as fast as every they could to their homes.

I must tell you that on our return to Ostrovo, after our first trip to Vranja, we met thousands of Serbian soldiers going back into Serbia. We arrived in Veles about eight o'clock, and were lucky enough to find two of the "Elsie Inglis" Unit who took us to the house where they had got rooms for the night. Our party did not turn up, but spent the night at the top of the Baboona Pass, where the Serbs had fought so valiantly, and they did not appear until about two o'clock next day. As the Selden had not put in an appearance, we decided to spend the night in Veles, and the Serbian Prefect gave us the village school to sleep in. I had to forage round and get food for my Unit, and fortunately I was able to get enough for them, although food was certainly very scarce, and a terrible price. Next day we started early after I had raided the British Cantine, and collected as much food as possible for the remainder of the journey, as our Selden had failed us, and we were evidently going to leave it very far behind. Next day was fine and sunny, and some of the scenery through which we passed was very wonderful. Up and down over these beautiful mountains we went, passing and repassing endless streams of traffic going and coming over hills and passes until we came to a small village, where we had lunch. We had this off tongue which we had got from the British Cantine, and bread; and I managed to buy tomatoes, cheese, and pears, so that we had quite a banquet in the main street with all the inhabitants looking on. That night we got to Uskub about dusk, and went to Lady Paget's old Hospital, where we found some of the Serbian Relief people busy getting the Hospital into order. They were very kind, and helped us to get hot water for tea, and we spent quite a comfortable night there. After supper we went to see Dr. Chesney and her people, who had just arrived to work there. Their hospital was quite full, and everyone was very busy. Lots of our old patients greeted us in Uskub. We were glad to find that the town had not been very much destroyed, but most of the railway bridges and telegraph and telephone systems were blown up and useless, and wanton waste everywhere.

"We arrived in Vranja about eight o'clock, and felt our spirits a little damped, as the night was very cold and it was raining hard, and no preparations had been made for us; however, we soon got beds put up in one of the wards, and after rather a scanty supper we went to bed. In the morning we found the ground white with snow, and the cold intense. The Serbian ambulance left the hospital about six o'clock in the morning and we all set to work to do what we could to get some of the wards cleaned up. Patients had simply poured in to Vranja during the advance, and at times there were 1,500 patients stowed away in all sorts of odd corners, but by the time we arrived there were only about four hundred. Four Serbian doctors and a few medical students had heroically worked, and treated not only the wounded and sick in hospital but all the people in town who were suffering from Spanish influenza. They had done splendid work but, as you can imagine, there was no time for cleaning or keeping sanitary arrangements in any kind of order, so that our tasks at first seemed almost too enormous.

"Miss Barker has been a perfect tower of strength, and has tackled the most appalling and disgusting difficulties with splendid courage and cheeriness. I can never say enough for the way everyone has buckled to and worked, and it has been work under the very greatest possible difficulties as we did not possess a single brush, duster, pail nor a single piece of soap, and yet the wards got cleaned with brushes made from branches cut from the trees round the hospital. They have performed wonders in one short week, but, as you can imagine, there is a great deal still to be done. This is an enormous building originally used as a barracks, and there are many outhouses of all sorts, a good garage with concrete floor, excellent places for storing all our things. We are terribly badly needed as there is no doctor in the place, and such an amount of illness. In one of the wards we found several English Tommies suffering very much from influenza, one especially was very ill and died next morning. We were glad to be here and see that he was decently buried. We made a wreath and cross of lovely flowers, and as many nurses as could get away went to his funeral. His comrades carried him to the cemetery, and Dr. Emslie read a short burial service at the grave. We did feel so sad that we had not been able to come a day or two sooner; however, the doctors and sisters have done wonders for the other boys and they are improving wonderfully. We have eleven of them in at present and all sorts of people are coming craving to be admitted, so that I think it would be difficult to find a more cosmopolitan hospital anywhere. We get at present only meat and bread rations, and we are providing all the rest for about five hundred and twenty-five people, as we have many Austrians and Bulgarians, sick as well as prisoners, who work in the hospital. Fortunately a day or two after we arrived two large waggons came with some of the most necessary things such as drugs, food stores, some of our luggage, &c., so that we have been able to help a lot.

"The people say the Germans took all the food and useful material of all kinds out of the country before they left, so that the suffering has been terrible, but we are going to do all that we can for all the poor suffering people here, and I can assure you that the efforts of the S.W.H. are much appreciated by all the Serbs, French and British. If it is possible, we want all the warm clothing we can get, shirts, pyjamas, socks, mufflers, bedding, blankets, everything is needed badly, men, women, and children are nearly naked. The roads, of course, will be very difficult during the winter, but we are hoping that the railway from Salonique will soon be repaired, and that we can get things brought up more easily.

"We are working hard, and the suffering and sadness all round one are simply terrible. A poor Serbian officer was brought in unconscious two nights ago. To-day he insisted upon getting up, and going on to Uskub. He was most unfit to go out, and Dr. Emslie and I did our best to persuade him to remain for a night or two longer. Then he told us his pitiful tale: how he had gone up into Serbia with his heart full of joy and hope that, after three years of separation, he was to see his wife and little children again in the home he loved. He had found his home burned to the ground, and an old coffee house arranged in the ruins, and his wife and little children hanged by the Bulgars. He said he was only one of many officers who had the same experience. 'Most of them shot themselves or went mad, but I have come on to find my regiment, as my men were left behind at Uskub, and may not be able to get rations until I return; when I have made arrangements for them I will take something to make me sleep and sleep! I am not ill at all with any ordinary curable illness, but just my heart is broken, and I don't want to live.' I took him to the mess-room and gave him Serbian coffee, and got him to eat a little, and it seemed to comfort him a little to talk, but he insisted on leaving the Hospital and going off to Uskub. I fear there is terrible suffering and sorrow in store for many of the poor Serbs, and the end of the war will only mean the beginning of fresh sorrows with many of them. On the other hand, there will be some happy meetings. I brought letters and a parcel from a doctor in Vodena to his wife and children who live here, and it was wonderful to see their joy; his two children threw their arms round me, and begged me to take them to Daddy; his wife was very quiet, and unable to realise that her husband was really alive, but his old mother's joy was too wonderful; he was her only son, and she had mourned for him for three years, as they told her that he was dead! And so the days go on—interesting things happening all the time, and the days never long enough for all that has got to be done. When I feel extra tired I go into the English Tommies' Ward, and it revives me to see them looking so comfortable and so appreciative."

The Forlorn Hope.

It has seemed to me that the various ambitions astray in the world are beyond understanding. I know, for instance, a young woman whose ambition it is to be an undertaker. Again, there must be people who see in the occupation of the scavenger a sufficient inspiration for a life's work. Yet again, one notices that there is often competition for the job of being a king. But more astonishing to me than any other human inspiration used to be the "Anti" inspiration. There were, it appeared, people content to be ecstatic obstacles, people who professed themselves ready to die for a cause that was itself obviously dead, people who thought it worth while to stand across the path of progress with no bar but their outspread arms, enthusiasts who gloried in trying to dam a flood with a grain of sand. One might see autocrats pathetically defying the advance of an arrived democracy, one might see a dwindling band of the faithful waving banners in the face of such an established invasion as feminism, an older generation trying to organise its ranks to prevent youth from coming into its inevitable heritage. And the painful thing to the onlooker was that youth never had to bother to fight, it just marched on smiling disrespectfully. The fates were on youth's side. Some forlorn hopes seem so very forlorn that they cease to be hopes. Yesterday died when to-day dawned, and fidelity to yesterday seems not only a wasted fidelity, but also tragically inglorious. Loyalty to one's own generation is a fine thing, but the most curious fact about Antis is that they are so often young enough to know better. It seems so obvious that history is a drama that we may all read but never hope to stage again.

While I marvelled at these things one day I looked behind me suddenly in spirit, so to speak, and realised that I myself was haunted by a little Anti ghost, and that behind all men, in more or less intensity that wistful shadow ran, a petty and impertinent reaction at the back of every man's mind.

I was watching the Labour Day procession on Fifth Avenue, New York, at the time,—a form of festival new and extraordinarily interesting to a foreigner fresh from England.

And the little ghost behind me whined:—

"But it isn't pretty."

"It isn't meant to be pretty," I said sternly.

"But think of the prettiness of kings," mourned the little ghost. "Think of the glory of crimson velvet and ermine, and the sunlight on cream-coloured horses. Think of the fair expansive shining on imperial banners, and then look at that—a few thousand plain stoutish men in their Sunday ready-made clothes, with penny flags over their shoulders."

"It's only the poor past that bothered to be pretty." I persisted. "It had to hide its shortcomings somehow."

A band passed by, braying some regrettably obvious song. My little ghost yelped with pain. "Oh, how can you talk of the shortcomings of the past?" it cried. "Doesn't the present come short too, only at the other end? Listen to that. Don't you remember the music in the King's City, don't you remember the Guard's Cavalry band, climbing Ludgate Hill in scarlet and black and gold and white, and the leopard skin on the white horse of the drummer, and the music that filled your ears with a crude and very splendid noise, and made a lump come in your throat."

"The lump in the throat is hopelessly out of date." I said coldly. "Sentimentality is a thing we can very well do without."

"Oh, but can we?" it asked. "I can't. What about that day when the war started—our War, by the way, that we in despised gold and scarlet recognised as a War of ideals long before democracy noticed that peculiarity about it—don't you remember how you and I stood up with a shouting and choking crowd and shouted and choked ourselves voiceless over the little dim white faces of a king and queen. . . . .

"I remember," I said shortly. "The love of symbols is unfortunately very insidious. But the trade of kings and queens is only a luxury trade, after all. Perhaps we cheered that day because that little distant king of ours seemed to us to have sworn his fealty to the democracy we went to war about. I think that was why we cheered."

"I don't think so," said the little ghost.

"Well, in any case," I added, "we can put away childish things to-day whatever madness possessed us yesterday."

"Childish things. . . . ." repeated the shadowy voice. "And isn't all this childish—without even being pretty?"

Its voice died away, and we watched the procession in silence for a short moment. Then suddenly it cried:—

"Oh, stop them, stop them, they are marching over my heart. There is no end to the ranks of them, and they are trampling on beloved things."

"Nonsense," I said. "All the reality in all beloved things still lives. Only the forms change. Only the old forms are trampled underfoot."

"But I loved the old forms," the ghost confessed. "I could at least understand the forms of yesterday, the arts of yesterday. I loved words in nice tidy rhythms, and music that made me sleep well afterwards, and—I did so love to know what pictures were about. . . . ."

"Good heavens!" I said. "You'll be telling me next that you find true art in things like Landseer's 'Dignity and Impudence'."

"I loved that picture," whispered the ghost. "It used to hang over the bed in my night-nursery. . . . ."

Well, of course after that, I couldn't go on arguing with the creature, and for a time—but not for very long—it allowed me to watch in peace the unromantic passing of self-conscious artisans. Decorated automobiles of laborious vulgarity and patriotism filled the gaps between one trade and another. Every time one of these passed us, the little ghost behind me ground its ghostly teeth. A merry conceit, representing the corpse of the Kaiser in a coffin labelled and checked to its most probable destination, finally obliged the ghost to speak again.

"But where then, I ask you, is the dignity of War?" it said.

"Nowhere," I retorted smartly. "War—as war—is an entirely mean thing, and here it is recognised as such. We know our war to be a war against war, to strip war of its false dignity. Our fathers gilded the poisonous pill, we are destroying the poison and the gilding too."

"Well, well," said the ghost, "even my yesterday had very little to say against your ideal of lasting peace. I was only wondering about the idealism expressed by that coffin—"

"In other words, you are still hankering after that empty shell you call refinement," I said impatiently. "I tell you the People have inherited the earth, and the People are too busy

living to bother about acquiring polish. You're Victorian, that's what's wrong with you; I can't imagine how you managed to pass the Aliens officials when you landed here. You'll be saying next that you don't approve of these women motor drivers, because woman's sphere is the home."

"No, it isn't now," sighed the ghost. "But it used to be, and things were awfully comfortable in those days, weren't they?"

"I dare say," I replied. "Comfortable and nothing more, I have no doubt. But don't ask me. I have forgotten those days. I have forgotten all that you stand for. You are but the silly whining ghost of something worse than dead—something forgotten."

"Yes, that's all," breathed the ghost. "But never mind, I think I shall not trouble you long. It's awfully cold. . . ."

It spoke no more, and I was glad to have silenced it, and glad also to have met it, and to have heard its argument. For I shall recognise now that Anti voice that used to bewilder me, that voice that woos yesterday always, and cries like a false echo behind each of the new world's decrees, that voice that, a few years ago pricked with its futile regret for a worn-out peace our first applauding of this our final war; that same voice that shall, when peace comes, whine like an inebriate for the familiar stimulant of war. I shall know it now for the combined and diminishing voices of the little cold Anti ghosts that haunt, in dwindling numbers, the ways of new men.

Stella Benson.

Four Women Novelists.

Little England. By Sheila Kaye-Smith. (Nisbet. 7s. net.)
The Silent Battlefield. By Mary L. Pendered. (Chapman & Hall. 7s. net.)
The Flapper's Mother. By Madge Mears. (Lane. 6s. net.)
The Pelicans. By E. M. Delafield. (Heinemann. 6s. net.)

It is curious how naturally one takes for granted nowadays the interest of the artist in moral and political problems. It is as though the barrenness of the old controversy about "art for art's sake," the unreality of the old division of life into separate spheres and abstract activities, were now realised beyond cavil. We no longer assert that the artist's sphere (like that other even more famous and more viciously circular conception, "woman's sphere") is co-extensive with the general interests of humanity: we no longer assert it, because we assume it. Long ago—and yet not so long ago either—a novel was a "problem" novel or a "political" novel, or possibly a "religious" novel, when it was not, more plausibly and pleasantly, "just a novel." To-day the problems, political, religious, sexual, or whatnot, are woven into the texture of fiction as into the texture of fact. Perhaps it is the war which more than anything else has brought about the change; for the war gathered up, as it were, the various, the innumerable, problems that beset the business of living and dying, and concentrated them in the problem of life and death.

Of the four novels before me, only one is directly concerned with the war. The symbolism of Miss Kaye-Smith's title, *Little England*, may be taken as complementary to the symbolism of Mr. Kipling's sensible question: "What do they know of England who only England know?" You can know a thing by comparison with other things outside it (the Kipling method): or you can know a thing by intensive study of itself (the Kaye-Smith method—see also the implications of the "flower in the crannied wall," as moralised by Tennyson!). One might re-write Mr. Kipling's line: "What do they know of England who only Sussex know?" Mr. Hilaire Belloc would presumably reply: "Everything"—and after reading Miss Kaye-Smith one might be tempted to agree with him. For, after all, there is, in philosophical truth, no difference between the two methods, the comparative and the intensive: each succeeds in so far, and only in so far, as it universalises the interest of its particular subject. This universality is the test of art. Of Miss Kaye-Smith's Sussex story one does not ask: "Is it true to Sussex?"—but: "Is it true to life?" The latter includes the former, the greater the less. One cannot master a fact in its innermost implications without implicity comparing it with the rest of experience: one cannot "place" it comparatively without understanding its essence. Some rustic sage has observed that "human nature is human nature all the world over"; and the test of Miss Kaye-Smith's *Little England* is its relevance to the problems of all England, and of the world.

To say that it emerges triumphantly from the test would be to say too much. It is a good book, but not a consistently successful book. Its attempt to sound the profundities of simple inarticulate natures is ambitious—as ambitious as would be the attempt to dissect natures the most complex and recondite. Indeed, these plain country folk are perhaps recondite in the literal sense: their reserve is more baffling than the mere complexity of civilisation. Miss Kaye-Smith's types include the straightforward young farmer, puzzled, unwilling to go to the war yet acquiescent in the compulsion which takes him to it—and ultimately a convert to patriotic enthusiasm: his younger brother, who fights the battle of the soil, wringing food from the reluctant earth: their sisters, the primitive, hoydenish flirt and the over-sensitive, the "refined," teacher: their argumentative and alcoholic father, and their ambiguous and incoherent mother. Outside this one family I think the characterisation is less sure, and some of the more melodramatic incidents are unconvincing. But indubitably, in her "big scenes," Miss Kaye-Smith rises to the height of tragedy: she has understanding, sincerity and power.

Miss Pendered's novel is praiseworthy in a rather old-fashioned style. The hero is the illegitimate son of a lord—Lord Clairvaulx, to be precise, lest you should doubt the genuiness of his Norman blood: the simple faith is provided by the mother. Growing up in ignorance of his ancestry, and making a great deal of money out of "fruit cheeses," Rollo Johnson becomes a County Councillor, a Member of Parliament, a Captain of Industry. The expert reader will foresee what happens when, in the prime of his successful manhood, he meets the legitimate offspring of his father's house. But Miss Pendered's main concern is with the more general question—the loss of soul involved in gaining the things of this world, the relation of the camel to the needle's eye. It is hard on Rollo that the young woman whom he wants to marry should be in a position to say to him, in effect, "I will be a half-sister to you"; but somehow he is not real or individual enough to engage our sympathies. A large part of the book is taken up with discussions about Socialism—discussions in which the poor and thoughtful friends of Rollo's boyhood, workers and dreamers, play the larger part. But the talk, though detailed, is elementary, and not very illuminating. Miss Pendered has *generalised* rather than *universalised* her problem: she has diffused it among generalities rather than made us see the whole of it in the particular aspect.

Miss Mears's plot turns on the old difficulty—the responsibility of a mother, deserted by her husband, to her daughter: how far must a woman so situated sacrifice "her own life" (in the common phrase) to conventions she does not believe in, so as to shield the girl for whose future she feels responsible? For many people, of course, such difficulties could not arise. But for people who have no clear confidence in this or that dictate of religion or of convention (that miserable substitute for religion!): for people who are feeling their way amid moral and social perplexities—not only do the difficulties arise, they arise with frequency and in forms so various as to offer the novelist almost his most familiar field. Miss Mears's plot, then, is not in essentials new. What is always new in her work is its own intrinsic freshness and naturalness. She can never be hackneyed, because her point of view is always her own. And her characters are always as natural as characters in real life: she meets the vagaries of human nature with an acceptance at once sypathetic, humorous and courageous. Everything she writes is refreshing.

Miss Delafield is a wit. Over her books one laughs aloud. But that is not her main claim to our attention. Her exposure, now whimsical and now malicious, of poor humanity's pretences, shows an acuteness of perception and a richness of invention which are genuine comic gifts—yet her comedy, fine as it is, is not her best quality as a novelist. I use the word "fine," and I think it is still applicable, though the effects in *The Pelicans* are somewhat broader than were those in *Zella Sees Herself*. The most memorable comic character in *The Pelicans* is Minnie Blandflower:

> "Miss Blandflower belonged to that numerous and mistaken class of person which supposes the art of witty conversation to lie in the frequent quotation of well-known tags and the humorously-intended mispronunciation of the more ordinary words in the English language."

Nothing could be better done than Minnie herself, in practice: but this somewhat long-winded explanation of her is symptomatic of a slight weakness in Miss Delafield's work—a tendency to over-emphasise, to over-explain. But on the serious side there is no such weakness. The main tragedy in this book is the insistence of the delicate Frances on retirement into convent-life: and the restraint exercised in the delineation of the tragedy may fairly be called terrific. It has an actually terrifying effect. Miss Delafield writes as a partisan, and a partisan in a controversy into which I could not appropriately enter here. But she knows how to make her indictments, whether of systems or of individuals, effective—by giving

Victory Christmas.

Remember Christmas, 1914—How the Women were waiting—longing and waiting.

Remember Christmas, 1915, 1916, 1917—How the Women in their millions had taken up the heavy burden of the Nation's work—munitions, land, commerce, soldiering—in a way history had never seen. And still were waiting—longing and waiting.

Christmas, 1918—Can you enjoy Victory Christmas unless you share it with the men and women yet at their posts? Never were our women war-workers more in need of material and spiritual help. They need Clubs, Hostels, and Canteens even more during demobilization than during War. Send your gift for the Blue Triangle Huts and Clubs to-day to

Y.W.C.A.

The Lord Sydenham of Combe,
or
Miss Picton-Turbervill, O.B.E.,
26, George Street,
Hanover Square, W.1.

Women Wartime Workers' Fund, Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916.

acknowledgment to the beauty, to the aspiration and intention, of what she indicts. Her main enemy is the insincerity which besets even those who most sincerely want to be sincere! And what a subtle, what an elusive enemy it is! After all, if we were honest with ourselves, we should admit that we are dishonest with ourselves.

Gerald Gould.

Reports, Notices, etc.

WOMEN CANDIDATES.

*Mrs. W. C. Anderson (Miss Mary Macarthur), Worcester, Stourbridge (Labour).
*Mrs. M. C. Ashby, Birmingham, Ladywood (Liberal).
Miss M. Carney, Belfast, Victoria (Sinn Fein).
Mrs Carruthers (Miss Violet Markham), Notts., Mansfield (Liberal).
Mrs. Despard, Battersea (Labour).
Mrs. Dacre Fox, Richmond (Independent).
Miss Alison Garland, Portsmouth, South (Liberal).
Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Manchester, Rusholme (Labour).
Mrs. J. McEwan, Middlesex, Enfield (Liberal).
Mrs. H. M. Mackenzie, University of Wales (Labour).
Mme. Markevicz, Dublin, St. Patrick's (Sinn Fein).
Mrs. How Martyn, Middlesex, Hendon (Independent).
Miss E. G. Murray, Glasgow, Bridgeton (Independent).
Miss Chrystabel Pankhurst, Smethwick (Women's Party).
Miss E. Phipps, Chelsea (Independent).
*Mrs. O. Strachey, Middlesex, Brentford and Chiswick (Independent).

* Asterisk indicates Candidates whom the N.U.W.S.S. is supporting.

EXTRACTS FROM ELECTION ADDRESSES OF WOMEN CANDIDATES.

MISS VIOLET MARKHAM.

I am proud to feel that the Mansfield Liberals are willing in this contest to give me the same measure of political independence as they accorded to my dear brother. My Radical and Democratic convictions have only been strengthened by the experience of the war. The war has proved in the end a splendid vindication of democracy. I have come forward, therefore, as an Independent Liberal, giving a general support to the Coalition Government in carrying out the Peace on the basis of President Wilson's fourteen points; but not bound by pledges, and with a free hand to deal with the issues of Reconstruction as they arise on any other matters of Government policy. I am a warm supporter of the ideal of the League of Nations.

I remain a convinced Free Trader, but recognise that the abnormal situation created by the war calls for certain modifications in its practice. I am prepared to consider the question of the protection of Key Industries, which ought to be viewed as part of the nation's system of defence. Industries to which this protection is accorded should, however, be controlled by the State and their profits devoted to national purposes, not to private gain. Cases of dumping would, I think, be a suitable subject for investigation by one of the standing Committees of Enquiry, which I hope to see set up by the League of Nations.

As Liberals, we deeply deplore that the war has added yet another chapter entailing much mutual bitterness to the fatal record of misunderstanding between England and Ireland. I have always been a Home Ruler, and am prepared to support a Home Rule Bill or any measure on which the Irish would themselves agree; but I am not prepared after the experience of the war to coerce N.E. Ulster, for which separate arrangements must be made. Measures concerned with Housing, Health, Wages, Land, will, if adequate, receive my warm support. Such measures must deal fearlessly with the vested interests involved, or they will prove of no account. In industry we must work for the establishment of a new social order based, not as in the past, on profit-making and strife, but on the principle of a public service to which all contribute and in which all share.

MISS ALISON GARLAND.

In the difficult period of Reconstruction there will be industrial problems specially affecting women, and I appeal to the women voters to elect me to speak and work on their behalf. Women have helped to win the war, and their voice must be heard in the winning of Peace. They have their special point of view in such questions as the upbringing and protection of children; the maintenance of an equal moral standard for men and women; the housing of the people; the formation of a Ministry of Health, and national Education. I have been all my life an ardent worker for the emancipation of women, and I would like to complete my labours by advocating their cause in the House of Commons.

I pledge myself to support a Coalition Government, led by Mr. Lloyd George, in the settlement of the terms of Peace and any and every measure of Reconstruction on progressive democratic lines. We have been a united nation to win the war. May this unity be preserved in rebuilding a new and better Britain. We entered into war to end all wars, therefore a League of Nations must be formed to secure the preservation of Peace.

I believe in self-determination for municipalities on all questions relating to Local Government; therefore I am in favour of full popular control of the Liquor Traffic. Bright and cheerful places of public resort where men and women could gather for social intercourse should be provided. As "self-governing nations alone are free, and free people alone are essentially progressive" I would vote for Home Rule for Ireland (with reasonable safeguards for Ulster) and a generous measure of self-government for India. I favour the continuance of our Free Trade system which, having given us nearly one-half of the world's Merchant Shipping, has enabled us to save the Allied cause from disaster. I stand by Free Trade because Protection impoverishes industry, encourages profiteering, increases the cost of production, and thus maintains high prices. It may, and probably will, be necessary to protect our key industries, but care must be taken that the resulting profits shall go to the State. The crying need of the nation is the proper Housing of its people both in town and country. The Empire on which the sun never sets should not contain hovels on which the sun never shines. The Government have promised to undertake this national task, and they will have my loyal support in this and all measures taken to secure the health of the people. A minimum wage should be established in every branch of employment to secure a reasonable standard of comfort. This should be regarded as the first charge on every trade and industry.

MRS. DESPARD (North Battersea).

As a woman Parliamentary candidate, standing for the cause that is nearest to my heart—the cause of the people, I send a word of greeting and recognition to our fellow-workers of the National Union and the Common Cause.

You, my sisters, have for many years, through good and ill report, stood for righteousness in public life and for those urgent reforms in our social system through which alone we can hope for social salvation; and your reward has come in these marvellous, unprecedented changes that have come to pass.

Now that the door of opportunity stands open for women, as well as men, it is good to feel that, in organisations such as yours, the training requisite to success in service has been given. I hope the new Parliament will have women amongst its members; and I firmly believe that their influence and help will be of special use to the nation now. On the ruins of the old world of privilege and convention we are building a new world—just, strong, free. Unity is the only firm basis of such a world. Therefore women must be there.

THE UNIVERSITY CANDIDATES.

Our Cambridge correspondent has sent us the following extracts from the addresses of the University candidates:—

PROFESSOR SIR JOSEPH LARMOR (Coalition).

A request has come from a committee of electors that my views should be stated on the question of the admission of women to degrees at Cambridge on the same terms as men, in order that they may be submitted to the women electors now entitled to the University franchise. It would, I think, be unfortunate, especially at this time, that an implied limitation on the internal autonomy of the University, with which Parliament has hitherto avoided any direct interference, should be made a test issue in a Parliamentary election. But my personal convictions on this subject are not unknown, and I willingly state them here.

The movement for the higher education of women has been of great national value; and Cambridge has a good record in this regard, in which most of the resident teachers have a share. I am ready to grant that women who have passed the qualifying tests should have the hall-mark of a University degree. But I think it is in the national interest that Cambridge should continue to be predominantly a University for men: and it seems to follow that, so long as the Senate remains the Governing Body of the University, it is not desirable that women graduates should become Members of the Senate. I think that the education of women, intellectual and social, while no less thorough than that of men, should be free to develop on its own lines instead of being an exact copy of the education of men. I would willingly support the grant of a Charter incorporating a Body affiliated to Cambridge and working in close association with the University, empowered to grant degrees to women, such as could imply no inequality of intellectual status; an arrangement of this kind is reported to work well at Harvard. I think the problem has not yet been sufficiently explored: and I hold that its solution should be left to the free decision of the University.

JOHN F. P. RAWLINSON (Coalition).

I have been asked by a Committee of resident women electors for my views on the admission of women to full membership of the University on the same terms as men. This would, of course, involve the eligibility of women for every office in the University.

I respectfully deprecate such an issue being raised as a test for Candidates in a Parliamentary Election.

If elected, I have no intention of intervening in this question.

Important though the matter is, I regard it as one which should be settled by the Members of the Senate, and that it lies outside the domain of my duties as your Parliamentary Representative.

I have never, since I have been your Representative, taken part in controversial domestic politics, as I think it undesirable for many reasons that a man elected upon wider issues should throw his influence into either scale in such controversies.

J. C. SQUIRE (Labour).

I am wholeheartedly in favour of removing the artificial disabilities which our laws and our administrative practice impose upon women as a sex. I believe that women should be given the same chance of entering the professions as men are; that they should be put upon the same footing as men with regard to the franchise and eligibility for public bodies; and that women in Government employ should for "equal work" receive "equal pay," and be afforded equal opportunities of promotion. I took my share in the campaign against Regulation 40 D, and should vigorously oppose any attempt to re-introduce the principles of the C.D. Acts.

Our long refusal —at this stage grotesque—to allow degrees (coupled, one must add, with full membership of the University) to women has aroused a prejudice against us about which we have no right to complain, and which we ought at once to dissipate by abolishing its cause.

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From Bristol a Pelmanist writes:—

"After taking up Pelmanism for about three months I was offered a very high post in the firm in which I am employed. This advancement, *which doubled my salary* (which was not inconsiderable before), I attribute entirely to Pelmanism."

The foregoing is typical of, literally, hundreds of letters, some of which tell of incomes *trebled* and even *quadrupled* as a result of Pelmanism. These letters are not asked for; they are sent of the writers' free will. Pelmanists are only too ready to acknowledge the vast good they have derived from the Course.

Here is another letter from a journalist, who had only got as far as Lesson 4 when he wrote:—

"Already I feel a definite change in my mentality, a stirring and stretching in the mind. I cannot praise too highly the *perfectly natural method of progression.* There is no trick or quackery about it, and for the return your System gives, it seems to be nonsensically cheap at the fees you charge."

Worth a Hundred Times the Price.

Many business men have remarked that the Course, to them, would be cheap at ten, twenty, or one hundred times the price. One man, a solicitor, said that a single lesson of the Course was worth £100. The cost, in short, is infinitesimal as compared with results, and small though the fee is, it may be paid by instalments if desired. Cost is no obstacle to anyone becoming a Pelmanist.

Here is another letter—short and sweet—from a busy accountant:—

"Since becoming a Pelmanist I have benefited materially, having been promoted twice in twelve months, with 50 per cent. financial increase."

Large numbers of medical men have taken the Pelman Course, and many of them recommend their patients and friends to do the same. Higher praise from such a cautious and conscientious body of professional men it would be impossible to gain. Here is a letter from one:—

"I cannot be sufficiently thankful that I took a Pelman Course. . . . I attribute my success in a large measure to the application of Pelman principles. The study was done in the spare time left to me by a large industrial practice."

Another letter, also from a medical man:—

"I took the Pelman Course because my practice was not in a satisfactory condition, and I could not discover the cause. Your lessons enabled me to discover the weak points and correct them, with most satisfactory results. Your Course has proved to be a splendid investment for me. My chief regret is that I did not take it at the beginning."

Results are Wonderful.

Another Pelmanist expresses himself thus:—

"The results are wonderful. I used to wonder (before taking up the Pelman Course) if there was any possible exaggeration, but honestly, *no pen can express one tittle of the value the Course really is.* What I have gained up to the present could never be called costly even if it had cost me £50."

It may be remarked that this gentleman had only worked through *2 lessons* when he wrote the foregoing. Comment would be superfluous.

One of the most interesting letters received by the Pelman Institute during recent months contains the following very frank admissions:—

"I admit having read your announcements for some 10 years, and yet I was not (to my eternal regret be it admitted) persuaded to commence your Course until I noticed your consistent advertising in the *Times.* . . . . I do not see how anyone can study the Pelman lessons seriously and not gain thereby—reaping a reward which, besides its definite and tangible advantage, also brings with it developments which have no parallel in money values.

"To those of my acquaintance who ask my opinion of the Pelman training, I have said, and shall continue to say:—'Take it—follow instructions carefully—and if at the end of the course you do not admit having gained something good—right out of proportion to its cost—I will personally refund your outlay.'"

Consider these Points.

There is no parallel to the amazing success of Pelmanism amongst all classes; and every month, every week, its success and popularity increase.

It is perfectly simple and easy to master, takes but very little time, and can be studied anywhere. Being taught entirely by correspondence, it does not matter where you live. Many successful Pelmanists took up the Course when living overseas in remote corners of the Empire.

It has now been adopted by over 400,000 men and women, *and no thorough student of the Course has ever yet failed to secure "results."*

Full particulars of the Pelman Course are given in "Mind and Memory," which also contains a complete descriptive Synopsis of the 12 lessons. A copy of this interesting booklet, together with a full reprint of "Truth's" famous Report on the work of the Pelman Institute, and particulars showing how you can secure the complete Course for one-third less than the usual fee may be obtained gratis and post free by any reader of THE COMMON CAUSE *who applies to The Pelman Institute, 177, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. 1.*

COME TO THE

CHRISTMAS SALE

In aid of WOMEN'S SERVICE FUNDS

ON

Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 18th & 19th,

IN THE

CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

Open WEDNESDAY, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission, 1/-
Open THURSDAY, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission, 6d.
Teas, 6d.

Further Contributions are urgently needed.

Hospital Comforts — Needlework
Jewellery — Lavender
Books — Pictures
China — Toys
Jumbles — White Elephants
Produce; in fact anything useful for Xmas Presents or for the Jumble Sale to follow.

Parcels can be sent to the Central Hall, addressed to Women's Service Sale.

COME WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

THE NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Head Office:—

39, KING STREET, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C. 2.

Funds nearly **£3,000,000** — ***Founded*** **1830**

LIFE ASSURANCE FOR WOMEN.

This Society has issued a pamphlet dealing with Life Assurance for Women. A copy will be forwarded on application.

NATIONAL WAR BONDS BY INSTALMENTS.

Instalments payable over 5, 7 or 10 years.
Each instalment secures a proportionate amount of the Bond.
Income Tax rebate may be claimed in respect of Instalments paid.
The Bond becomes the property of the purchaser at the end of the term, or of her representatives at her death if previous.

No better or safer medium for the investment of savings can be found.

Write for prospectus containing full particulars

.....

(Fill Up, Cut Out, and Forward)

To the Actuary & Manager,
National Mutual Life Assurance Society,
39, King Street, Cheapside, London, E.C. 2.

Please forward me a copy of [War Bond Prospectus or leaflet "Life Assurance for Women,"] and quote rates applicable to age.....next birthday.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

C. DAMPIER WHETHAM (Independent).

The University should make up its mind to move forward on progressive lines; women should be admitted to full membership on the same terms as men. Among the immediate internal developments which seem to me desirable, is the granting of degrees to women on the same terms as to men.

We have not received full information about the Oxford University Candidates, but they are believed to be feminist. The following words are taken from Mr. SANDERSON FURNISS' (Labour) Election Address:—

"I make a special appeal to women, who, in my opinion, should at once be admitted to full membership of the University, and be granted the complete freedom, political and social, demanded for them by the Labour Party."

NATIONAL WOMEN CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS.

The official policy of the National Women Citizens' Associations towards the present General Election is one of absolute impartiality towards all Parties, political combinations of Parties, groups, and individuals, whether recently sitting members or new candidates. The Central Committee of the National Women Citizens' Associations has issued no political instructions to the local Women Citizens' Associations throughout the country, because the latter are absolutely self-governing, and the responsibility for dealing with all parliamentary candidates remains entirely with the Women Citizens' Associations in the constituencies. Consequently the questions being locally addressed to parliamentary candidates by Women Citizens' Associations, are those drawn up and adopted by local women, and differ widely from place to place.

With regard to the various candidatures of women throughout the country the position is as follows. The general Constitution of the National Women Citizens' Associations was finally passed by representatives of local Associations only as recently as November 8th, 1918. That constitution states as one of its objects, "The adequate representation of women in local affairs, and those of the nation and of the Empire." But this representation is desired on the ground of personal merit and capacity rather than on that of sex, as the National Women Citizens' Associations is in no sense a Women's Party. Each Association is bound by the constitution to consider impartially the merits and principles of all candidates for its own constituency, whether men or women, and a woman will receive no preferential treatment because of her sex. No woman candidate could be run by any local Women Citizens' Association, because its membership including women of every shade of political opinion, would inevitably comprise some of political schools of thought opposed to that of the candidate; precisely the same limitation would apply in the case of a man's candidature, even of one who might decide to contest a constituency entirely in women's interests. Nevertheless, it would be unnatural to suppose that either the candidatures of women or those of men are known to have worked for women in the past, are being regarded with icy indifference; indeed, some members of the National Women Citizens' Associations are personally candidates in whose fate the National Women Citizens' Associations naturally takes the warmest interest.

Neither ordinary members of the National Women Citizens' Associations, nor officials, are ever required in any way to modify their personal political views or actions. Indeed, every local Association includes strong Party women. In an Association the President might, for instance, be a Primrose Leaguer, and the Treasurer might be a Liberal, whilst the Secretary was a Labour woman.

There would never be any suggestion that the non-Party character of the Association as a whole, should prevent any individual member becoming a Party candidate for either municipal or parliamentary vacancies.

It will be observed that the Constitution of the National Women Citizens' Associations does aim at an adequate representation of women in the future, not only in local affairs, but in those of the nation and of the Empire. It is therefore not impossible that when future vacancies arise in costituencies, or in Imperial Councils, the Central Committee of the National Women Citizens' Associations should indicate a desire for the choice of suitable women candidates for such positions. The difficulty arising from the inclusion within the National Women Citizens' Associations of women of every political position or of none, would presumably be met by the selection of a group of women individually representing each political division. The brief interval between the grant of the franchise to women, and the first General Election is the explanation why no such steps have yet been considered. It has been felt that the education of the many has preceded in importance the choice of the few. But that need not always be the case.

The National Women Citizens' Associations is building, not for the moment, but for the long future. A happy omen in this connection is the fact that the formation of a Women Citizens' Association in several places has been immediately followed by co-option or election of women upon local public bodies hitherto rigidly masculine!

Since last February, the local Women Citizens' Associations have been considering great public questions, not as connected with the old political labels, but with reference to first principles in a purely educational spirit. Such subjects as the Freedom of the Seas, the League of Nations, Old Age Pensions, Equal Pay for Equal Work, Housing, Demobilisation, Women in Industry, the opening of closed professions to women, and many other subjects have been brought before women by their local Women Citizens' Association, and from widely differing points of view. The National Women Citizens' Associations can justly claim that it has played an immense part in aiding the women's attitude towards their new franchise to become one of responsibility, and has constantly held up the highest ideals of political service towards the community. Its aim has been to secure a large poll of women by awakening their interest in the political problems of this spacious age; and, as far as time and opportunities have permitted, that their vote should be an intelligent one, untrammelled, and unmanipulated in the direction of any particular political interests.

With regard to a recent suggestion in the public Press, that the difficulties of supplying political information to men on active service should overcome by local information supplied in their wives' lettters, the General Secretary of the National Women Citizens' Associations, Miss Helena

Normanton, B.A., states that this contingency was foreseen many months ago, and that in addresses to many Associations she has constantly recommended that soldiers' and sailors' womenfolk should be invited to attend all political meetings, and write descriptions of local political work to their men. Frequently aid has been given to such women, both from headquarters and by local honorary officials when the Register was being compiled.

Advice that special committees of Women Citizens' Associations should be formed to help service men's wives politically, has recently been circularised to the Associations. All this has been done in no vote-catching spirit, but in an absolutely non-Party way. This is recognised by the fact that quite recently the Royal Naval Friendly Union of Sailors' Wives has entered into co-operating relationship with the National Women Citizens' Associations, for the political education of their members, an impossible procedure if the National Women Citizens' Associations had had any political bias.

In brief, the fundamental principle of the National Women Citizens' Associations is that broad non-partisan education is the safest foundation for Democracy, and that it is the Truth which shall set us free.

REGULATION 40 D D.O.R.A. "IN ITS PRESENT FORM."

The following letter has been sent by the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage to the Prime Minister :—

DEAR SIR,—We understand that Regulation 40 D. has been revoked on the recommendation of the Committee presided over by Lord Moulton, who advised the repeal of the Regulation in its "present form." The words "present form" suggest that the Regulation may be introduced in some other form, and as the principles contained in the Regulation are obnoxious to Scotland in any form, and because Scotland is an integral part of the United Kingdom, we respectfully desire as Scots, to be informed if the Coalition is returned to power, whether it will forbid the application in any legislation of the following principles of State Regulation of Vice :—

1. The forced physical examination of the subject, male or female ;
2. The police prosecution and imprisonment of "fallen women" as such ;
3. The registration of "fallen women" as "public prostitutes."

We should, of course, vigorously agitate against the introduction of these pernicious doctrines in the reconstruction of society, and we respectfully desire plain, straight answers to these three plain questions. We feel sure that as this subject has become one of the most burning public internal questions of the country, you will not deny us an honest pronouncement upon it in order that we may give our mandate as electors in what is supposed to be a great and free democracy.

National Executive, N.M.F.

M. ARNCLIFFE SENNETT ; BAILIE ALEXANDER BARRIE, J.P., Edinburgh Town Council ; GERALD M. CRANFAUL, Councillor, Edinburgh ; HENRY DRUMMOND, Councillor, Mid-Lothian ; THOS. SHAW, Edinburgh ; J. WILSON MCLAREN, Edinburgh ; ALEXANDER ORR, Hon. Treasurer N.M.F., Midlothian Centre ; N. BROWN, Hon. Secretary, Midlothian Centre ; JAMES BRUNTON, Executive and Trustee, Edinburgh Trades Council ; JOHN MCMICHAEL, J.P., Councillor, Edinburgh ; HAMILTON BROWN, J.P., Magistrate, Glasgow ; WILLIAM THOMSON, B.A., lately Headmaster of Hutcheson's Girls' Grammar School, Glasgow ; DAVID PERRY, J.P. (ex-Provost), N.M.F., Glasgow ; R. FERGUSON, Hon. Secretary, N.M.F., Glasgow.

WOMEN'S SERVICE SALE.

It is anticipated that the Christmas Sale on December 18th and 19th, in aid of the funds for women's service will be very largely attended. The work being done in the offices is of far-reaching importance now that the moment has come for meeting the difficulties incident to the discharging of women from war work. Contributions for the Sale are still urgently asked for.

THE WOMEN'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

The Women's Local Government Society has sent the following letter to the Prime Minister :—

PUBLIC HOUSES AND ELECTION DAY.

SIR,—We are requested by the Council of the Women's Local Government Society to present to you their earnest plea that you will see fit to give orders for the closing of all Public Houses on Election Day, December 14th.

Our Council realise that it is most probable that you already have given this order. But, if not, then, as they regard such closing as needed in the interest of good local government, they venture to entreat your immediate consideration of the need for your intervention.

We are, Sir,
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) T. MARY LOCKYER,
ANNIE LEIGH BROWNE,
MARY STEWART KILGOUR,
MARIAN BERRY.

"The Common Cause" £2,000 Fund.

CORRECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Carter	0	11	6
should read Purley W.S.S. Proceeds of White Elephant Sale.			
Mrs. Mundella	3	1	6
should read The Committee of Sunderland Society.			
	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	477	5	8
Miss Crosfield	5	0	0
	£482	5	8

A Solid Silver Waiter and Coffee Pot, reproduced from an Antique of the Georgian Period.
Silver Waiter, 10 ins.
£12 0 0
Coffee Pot, 1½ Pints.
£12 5 0

BY APPOINTMENT
JEWELLERS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

Presentation Silver.

THE Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company's solid silver presentation services offer the best value obtainable, and there is a most comprehensive collection from which to choose.

A selection of silver articles suitable for presentation will be forwarded for approval, carriage Paid, at the Company's risk, or a catalogue will be posted free on application.

The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company have no branch establishments in Regent Street, Oxford Street or elsewhere in London or abroad—only one address—

THE
GOLDSMITHS & SILVERSMITHS COMPANY LTD.
with which is incorporated The Goldsmiths' Alliance Ltd. Est. 1751

112, REGENT ST., LONDON, W.1.

By Appointment *to H.M. the King*

Over 14 million tins of
NESTLÉ'S MILK

were distributed through the Trade during November, so that every mother needing it for her baby should have no difficulty in getting it from her usual supplier at the controlled price of

PER 1/2½ TIN

The Food Controller is making regular distributions of Condensed Milk through the Trade according to available stocks, and as all traders are supplied strictly in proportion to their nominations, we can only refer all inquirers to their regular grocer or store, feeling sure that the Trade will loyally continue to give first consideration to those who need it to

SAVE THE BABIES

Are you using the hygienic
NESTLÉ PATENT FEEDING BOTTLE
If unobtainable locally at 1/4 complete, will be sent post free on receipt of 1/4 to
NESTLÉ'S (I.W. Dept.), 6 & 8, Eastcheap, London, E.C.3.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS MARGARET JONES.
MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary).

Hon. Treasurers:
MRS. H. A. L. FISHER and
MISS ROSAMOND SMITH.

Secretaries:
MISS AGNEW, MRS. HUBBACK (Information and Parliamentary).

Offices—Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, London, W.1.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, Ox, London. Telephone—Museum 2668.

Headquarter Notes.

D.O.R.A. 40 D Protest.

Regulation D.O.R.A. 40 D. has, with many other Defence of the Realm regulations, been withdrawn. It has been withdrawn, however, without any verdict for or against it from the Committee set up to investigate its working, and without any guarantee being given against an attempt to introduce legislation of a similar nature. Both the Sexual Offences Bill and the Criminal Law Amendment Bill of 1918 contained clauses against prostitutes and solicitation of a character unjust to women. There is grave danger that another such Bill may be introduced next session. The N.U.W.S.S. is utterly opposed to all legislation on the basis of an unequal moral standard for men and women, and intends to oppose any attempt to introduce such legislation. It therefore proposes to use such surplus of the money raised by the D.O.R.A. 40 D. Protest Fund, as is not required to cover the expense of agitation against 40 D. for this purpose. In this action it trusts that it will have the support of those who have so promptly and generously contributed to the Fund.

WOMEN CITIZENS' DIARIES.

The Women Citizens' Diaries have at last arrived and are now *on sale* in the Literature Department, price 1s. 6d. (cloth covers), 2s. (leather). ORDER EARLY as our stock this year is limited.

Early last week the N.U.W.S.S. published and distributed to Secretaries of Societies the following leaflet:—

WOMEN ELECTORS AND THE GENERAL ELECTION

THE 15 POINTS OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Now is the time when women electors can best influence Parliamentary candidates to adopt the reforms they have so long desired. If you want national Reconstruction to follow the right lines, show that the women care by telling candidates your views, by going to political meetings, and by asking questions at these meetings.

On Party questions, women differ as much as men. The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, which is non-party, hopes that the candidates of all Parties will support its programme. Bring these fifteen questions before all candidates, men and women, at their Election meetings.

EQUALITY AND FREEDOM.

Are you in favour of

1. Equal pay for men and women for equal work?
2. Freedom of opportunity for women in all professions and industries?
3. Admission of women to practice as solicitors and barristers?
4. Appointment of women as magistrates, police, and jurors?
5. Equal opportunities in education and training for men and women, for girls and boys?
6. Equal treatment of men and women before the law?

PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.

Are you in favour of

7. The Extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to women by making the age and qualification the same for them as for men?

STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Are you in favour of

8. Equal rights of guardianship for mothers and fathers?
9. Pensions for widows with dependent children?
10. Enforcement of maintenance orders on cruel, neglectful, or dissolute husbands, with the possibility of making such orders a charge on the man's wages?
11. The same nationality rights for married women as for men?
12. Taxation of income of a married woman separately from her husband's?

EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

Are you in favour of

13. The equal moral standard between men and women?

Are you opposed

14. Now that the Regulation 40 D. (D.O.R.A.) is gone, to any legislation compelling women to undergo local examination for venereal disease?

WOMEN DELEGATES TO THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

15. Will you urge the Government to include women among the official Government Delegates to the Peace Conference?

The N.U.W.S.S. Programme.

We reprint this week the Equality programme of the N.U.W.S.S. If any voter is in doubt how to vote on Saturday, we urge them take into account the attitude of the candidates and of the parties to which they belong, towards the great question of sex-equality, and to vote for the candidate who is most likely to give heartfelt and unqualified support to our programme.

FRIENDS OF ARMENIA

Office and Embroidery Depot:
47 VICTORIA ST., WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1
Hours, 10—5; Saturdays, 10—1. Tel.: Vic. 1198.

President: **LADY FREDERICK CAVENDISH.**

Chairman and Hon. Treasurer: E. W. BROOKS, Esq. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. MARY HICKSON. Office Sec.: Miss B. HICKSON.

The "Friends of Armenia" are rejoicing at the near prospect of freedom from the Turkish yoke for the people of Armenia. But the sufferings of the refugees during the next months will, in any case, be intense.

FUNDS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED

for the opening of Orphanages, rebuilding of homes, clothing and feeding the people, and later for the organising of industrial work among the adults.

Please help us with a gift for the Relief Fund, or by purchasing lace-edged linen handkerchiefs, made by Armenian Refugees at the Camp at Port Said. Prices varying from 1s. 5d. to 3s. 3d., and specimens will be sent on application

Gifts will be gratefully received and should be sent to E. W. BROOKS, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, Friends of Armenia, 47, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed "L.C.W. and Parr's Bank," and Treasury Notes Registered.

Please mention THE COMMON CAUSE.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

OBJECTS :—

(1) To obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

(2) To obtain all other such reforms, economic, legislative and social, as are necessary to secure a real equality of liberties, status and opportunities, between men and women.

(3) To assist women to realise their responsibilities as voters.

PROGRAMME :—

IMPROVEMENT OF THE STATUS OF MARRIED WOMEN.

(1) Parents to be Equal Guardians of their Children.

To promote legislation to provide that parents shall be the equal joint guardians of their children, each with the power to name a guardian to act jointly with the survivor.

(2) State Provision for Widows.

To promote legislation to provide State maintenance allowances for widows with dependent children or those incapacitated by age or infirmity.

(3) Nationality of Married Women.

To promote legislation to give British women the right to retain their British nationality on marriage with an alien, a right enjoyed by them until 1870, and to give them the same right to choose their nationality as a man, including the right to naturalise independently of their husbands.

(4) Enforcement of Wives' Maintenance Orders.

To promote legislation making more effective the obtaining and enforcing of maintenance orders on neglectful, cruel, or dissolute husbands, with the possibility of making such orders a charge on wages when the man neglects to pay.

(5) Income Tax and Married Women's Property.

To promote legislation enabling the income of a married woman to be reckoned as separate from that of her husband for the purpose of the rate of Income Tax levied.

(6) Married Women's Property Acts (Scotland).

To promote legislation to bring Scots law into line with the law of England by abolishing the present right of husband to veto the freedom of action of his wife in dealing with their own property.

II.—OPENING TO WOMEN OF PUBLIC POSITIONS AND PROFESSIONS.

*(1) *Women M.P.s.*

To enable women to be Members of Parliament.

(2) Juries, Police, Justices of the Peace.

To secure for women the right to serve on juries, and the immediate appointment of an adequate number of women as Policewomen with full powers to arrest, and as Justices of the Peace.

(3) Legal Profession.

To open the legal profession to women.

III.—EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.

Abolition of Law of Solicitation and Common Prostitutes.

Since law dealing with moral offences should be based on the equal moral standard not only verbally but in its effect, to work for the abolition of the whole law dealing with solicitation and common prostitutes.

Note.—It is sufficient for the purposes of preserving order in the streets that obstruction or molestation should be an offence, and that to prove a charge of molestation police evidence alone should not be enough, but the evidence of the person molested should also be required.

IV.—PAYMENT FOR WOMEN'S WORK.

To promote the economic equality of men with women.

V.—INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE POWERS AFTER THE WAR.

Women Delegates, Women's Suffrage, Married Women's Nationality.

To secure that the British Government shall

(1) include women among the British delegates to the Conference.

* Italics denote that the object has been attained.

GLASGOW W.S.S.—The sixteenth annual meeting of the Society was held at the Central Hall on Friday, November 22nd. Miss Frances Melville, M.A.B.D., in presiding, said that the Society had hoped to have had Lady Frances Balfour as a Parliamentary candidate for one of the Glasgow Constituencies, but in this they had been disappointed.

The annual report was presented and contained many interesting features. The Society had sent representatives during the year to the meetings of the Registration Agents and to give evidence before the Royal Commission on Proportional Representation for Glasgow. The Society had set aside one room at the office definitely for the work of a Women's Interests and Information Office, and had merged its Exchange and Voluntary Workers in this. Owing to the re-arrangement of the City Parliamentary Divisions several new Constituency Committees had had to be formed, the Society's aim being to get a working committee in each of the Constituencies.

In the absence of Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, who was prevented by illness from attending, the meeting was addressed by Miss Eunice Murray (Parliamentary candidate for Bridgeton). Miss Murray spoke on the N.U.W.S.S. programme and the urgent need for women Members of Parliament.

Resolutions calling for the removal of the anomalies in the Representation of the People Act, and welcoming the near prospect of the admission of women to the practice of the law were passed unanimously.

The following officers were re-elected : President, Colonel John Denny, C.B. ; Acting Vice-Presidents, The Lady Frances Balfour and Mrs. Maitland Ramsay, M.D. ; Hon. Treasurer, Miss M. C. Morrison ; Hon. Secretary, Miss M. A. Snodgrass. A ballot for the election of twenty members of Executive Committee was held.

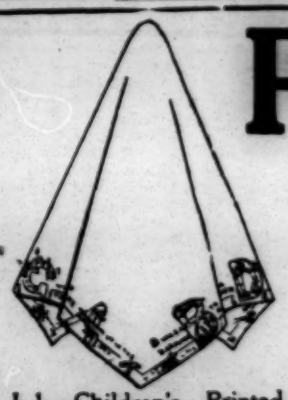
N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to Mrs Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H. Red House, Greenock, or to Headquarters, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh. Peace has now been declared, but the Sick and Wounded are still on our hands, and will need to be cared for. The Committee therefore urge for continued and

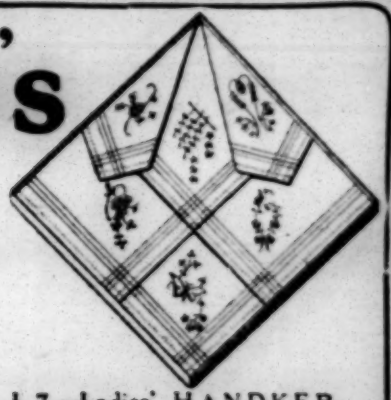
Peter Robinson's

HANDKERCHIEFS

for Christmas Gifts.



L 1.—Children's Printed Lawn HANDKERCHIEFS — Alphabetical War Subjects. Per doz. **3/11**

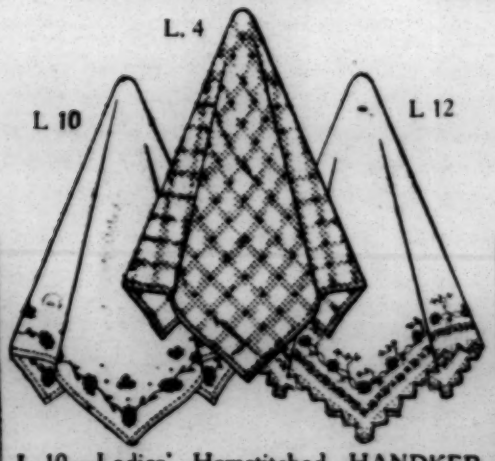


L 7.—Ladies' HANDKERCHIEFS in Pure Irish Linen, with embroidered corners. Assorted designs. A box of six. **3/6**

L. 4

L 10

L 12



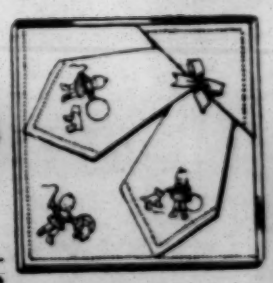
L 9.—Ladies' HANDKERCHIEFS, in fine Lawn, with embroidered corners. Assorted designs. A box of six **8/11**

Children's Coloured Embroidered HANDKERCHIEFS (subject : Dick Whittington). A box of Six **6/11**

L 10.—Ladies' Hemstitched HANDKERCHIEFS, embroidered in Irish Shamrock Lawn. Per Doz. **23/6**

L 4.—Ladies' Printed Check HANDKERCHIEFS, assorted colours—Pink, Blue, and Mauve. Per Doz. **4/6**

L 12.—Ladies' Embroidered HANDKERCHIEFS, in Pure Irish Linen, with scalloped edge. Per doz. **38/6**



L6. Children's Hem-Stitched HANDKERCHIEFS in pure Linen, with coloured embroidered corners. A box of three **4/6**

L 5.—Ladies' Printed Lawn HANDKERCHIEFS, assorted colours. A box of six **2/6**

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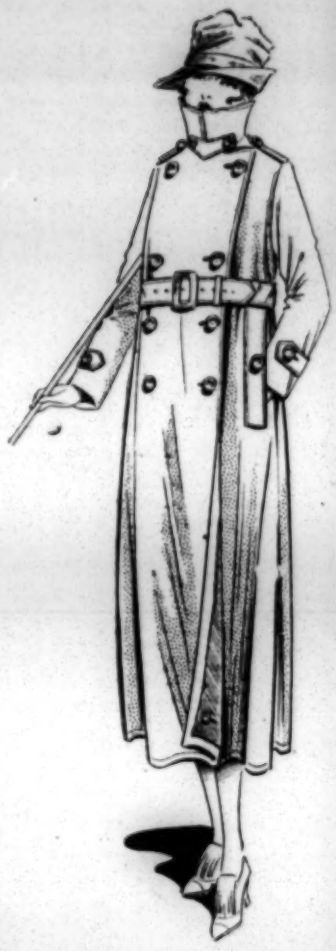

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	£	s.	d.
Forward as list to October 31st, 1918	352,840	9	10
Further donations received to November 14th, 1918:—			
*Colonel James Davidson, V.D.	2	12	6
*Anonymous (Royaumont) ...	25	0	0
*Miss Eliz. Rae (Monthly donation)		2	6
*Per Miss A. A. Macdonald-Clarke, per Miss Rose, From the Children at Kelty School, for "Scots Thistle" Bed (Royaumont) (7s.), "Scots Thistle" Magazine (£1) ...	1	7	0
Miss M. Nelson	20	0	0
Mrs. K. W. Jackson		10	0
*Mrs. Ellis	5	0	0
*Fer Mrs. Balfour, for upkeep of "Beauchamp" Bed, "Peebles" and "Tweeddale" Beds (£10 each) (Salonica, Corsica and Royaumont) ...	30	0	0
"Polly"	5	0	0
Miss Ritchie		5	0
*Miss Boyd, "Serbian Prisoners of War Fund" ...	1	1	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: *Employees, Messrs. Dick, Kerr & Co. Ltd. (30th contribution)	5	8	1
*Bristol W.S.S., per Mrs. Hicks, Hon. Treas., July, August and September donations: G. Bryar, Esq. (6s.), Mrs. Cross (3s.), Mrs. H. Hicks (3s.), Miss Leonard (3s.)		15	0
*James Tennant, Esq.	1	0	0
*"Darvel Public Chambers Association," per John Morton, Esq., Hon. Treas. ...	5	5	0
*Alex. Cupples (Monthly donation)	2	0	0
*Domestic Staff, St. Mary's School, Melrose (Monthly donation)		10	0
*Per Miss Jacobsen, Organiser, S.W.H., Galashiels: Proceeds of Flag Day, November 2nd, plus Sale of Post Cards (£46 5s. 7d.), Proceeds of Whist Drive, November 1st, plus donations: Jas. Dickson, Esq. (£1), Mrs. S. P. Dickson (10s.), Miss Dickson (10s.), J. Inglis, Esq., Jr. (2s. 6d.), Miss J. M. Hall (2s. 6d.) (£16 17s.), Employees, Comely Bank Mill, per Messrs. Hugh Sanderson & Sons, Galashiels (£8 2s.), Employees, Wheatlands Mill, per Messrs. A. Dickson & Co. Ltd., Galashiels (£6 7s.), Employees, Tweed Mill, per Messrs. P. & R. Sanderson, Galashiels (£5 2s. 3d.), Employees, Abbotts Mill, per Messrs. Owens & Shaw, Galashiels (£3 10s.), Firm, Messrs. Owens & Shaws (£3), Employees, Waverley Iron Works, per Messrs. Ammer, McLean & Co., Galashiels (£2 6s.), Employees, Gas Works, per A. Day, Esq., Manager, Gas Light Co., Galashiels (£1 7s.), Mrs. Hugh P. Cochrane (£1 10s.) ...	93	6	10
*Mrs. Alexander	1	0	0
Mrs. Currie (Serbia)	1	0	0
Andrew Baird, Esq.	3	3	0
*The Misses Duguid, for "Scottie" Bed (Salonica) ...	25	0	0
*Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, Liverpool, per Mrs. Fletcher, Hon. Treas., for upkeep of Bed (Royaumont)	25	0	0
*Mrs. Davidson, for upkeep of "6th Gordon Highlanders'" Bed, In Memory of the men of Territorial Regt. who have fallen (Salonica)	50	0	0
*"Middlesbrough Central War Relief Fund," per Preston Kitchen, Esq., Town Clerk ...	50	0	0
*Huddersfield W.S.S., per Mrs. Harrop, Hon. Treas., Hospitals Committee, for further upkeep of "Emily Frances Siddon" Bed (Corsica). Result of Rummage Sale ...	25	0	0
*Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: Pupils of the Ministers' Daughters' College, Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, per Miss Auld, Principal (£1 1s.). *Workmen's Scheme:* *Employees, Messrs. Brown Bros., Rosebank Ironworks, Edinburgh (£18 10s. 1d.), Matinée at Alhambra Theatre, Leith, arranged by Mr. Steele, Manager (£34 12s. 6d.), Employees, Messrs. Dittie & Forbes, Larbert, per J. C. Matheson, Esq. (£5), Employees, H.M. Factory, Craigleith, per Miss A. Ritchie, Welfare Superintendent (£4 2s.), Employees, Messrs. Henry Widnell & Co., Carpet Factory, Reston, per J. Easton (£1 7s. 5d.), Messrs. Gerrard Bros., Furriers, 134, Princes Street, Edinburgh (10s.)	65	3	0
*Miss M. L. Thomson, per Mrs. Wood, Hon. Treas., Kilmacolm W.S.S.	5	0	0
*Miss Constance B. Thresher (Quarterly donation)	2	10	0
*Miss Florence M. MacLeod (Serbia)	2	2	0
Mrs. Adam	20	0	0
*Mr. and Mrs. Jas. W. Cursiter	1	10	0
*Mrs. MacNair	1	0	0
*Mrs. Helen A. Rankine ...	10	0	0
Miss E. Aitken	1	1	0
Forward as per list to November 14th, 1918	353,330	5	3
Further donations received to November 21st, 1918:—			
*Hawick W.S.S., per Miss Brunton, Hon. Treas.: Proceeds of Gold Watch Competition organised by Mrs. Wotherspoon (£38), Subscriptions per Misses Hathorn & Wither (£10 10s.), From a "Grateful Nurse" (£1 10s.), for upkeep of the two "Hawick" Beds (Royaumont and Corsica)	50	0	0
*Staff and Employees, Messrs John Poynter, Sons, & Macdonalds, Greenock, per Mrs. Laurie	11	0	0
Mrs. Withers, per Mrs. Green		2	6
*Sir R. Rowand Anderson (Monthly donation)	2	0	0
*Bromsgrove W.S.S., per Miss M. A. Green, for upkeep of "Bromsgrove" Bed (Salonica)	8	12	3
Miss Ellen Stones	1	0	0
*Mr. and Mrs. Houstoun-Ross (£10). Miss Houstoun-Ross (£5)	15	0	0
*Per Mrs. Routledge, Collected during past Season for "Fisher's Hotel" Bed (Salonica)	15	0	0
*Miss C. Monteath	5	0	0
*Per Miss Jacobsen, Organiser, S.W.H., Galashiels: R. S. Hayward, Esq. (£10), Jas. Brown, Esq. (£10), Jas Sanderson, Esq. (£10), Anonymous (£5 5s.), Adam Peterson, Esq. (£5), Mrs. R. S. Hayward (£5), Employees, Botany Mill, per Messrs. Sime, Sanderson & Co., Galashiels (£2 16s. 3d.), Messrs. Kiddie, Gordons & Co., Rosebank Mills, Galashiels (£2 2s.), Employees, Buckholmside Skinworks, per Messrs. Sanderson & Murray, Galashiels (£2 1s. 9d.), A. J. Sanderson, Esq. (£2), Messrs. John & Geo. M. Lees (£2), Jas. Rae Brown, Esq. (£2), Mrs. J. S. Hayward (£2), Robert Fulton, Esq., Messrs. Hunter & Co., Abbotsford Mills, Galashiels (£2), Employees, Tweed Mill, per Messrs. Wright & Jobson, Galashiels (£1 12s. 6d.), Messrs. Geo. Burns & Sons, Engineering Works, Galashiels (£1 1s.), W. P. Sanderson, Esq. (£1 1s.), Mrs. Bruce (£1 1s.), Mrs. Cochrane (£1), A. Currie, Esq. (10s.), John Brownlee, Esq. (2s. 6d.) ...	68	13	0
David Duhe, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Lyell	10	0	0
Miss A. Conacher	1	0	0
Alex. Hart, Esq.		10	0
*Miss Anderson (Serbia) ...	3	0	0
*Robert Kerr, Esq., per Mrs. Laurie	50	0	0
*Frank Warrack, Esq.	10	0	0
*William Templeton, Esq. ...	5	5	0
Messrs. Walker, Hunter & Co. Ltd., Portdownie Iron Works, Falkirk	2	2	0
Per Miss M. Buchanan: Miss Buchanan (£4), Miss H. C. Learmonth (£1)	5	0	0
*Mrs. Ellingsen	10	10	0
The Misses Jameson	4	4	0
*J. Armour Brown, Esq. ...	10	0	0
Mrs. Middleton		10	0
Mrs. Williamson		5	0
*The Misses Fraser	2	0	0
Mrs. Christall	1	0	0
Mrs. Boyd	10	0	0
*Miss Helen Wilson	5	0	0
*"Clerks in the Claims and Record Office," Kew, per Miss Janet Smith, to continue "Claims and Record Office, Kew" Bed	4	0	0
Mrs. V. B. Stewart	3	0	0
Miss Cowe	2	0	0
Miss H. A. Dundas		10	0
Miss Baillie	2	0	0
*Wellingborough W.S.S., per Miss Elsie R. Tooke ...		10	0
*Mrs. Reddie		10	0
*Birkenhead W.S.S., per Miss Mary E. Dalby, Hon. Treas., for "Birkenhead" Bed (Royaumont)	3	14	6
*Mrs. Crabbie	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
The Misses White		10	0
Miss Maxton		10	0
*Per Miss E. Rachel Jamieson, Organiser, S.W.H.: Mrs. Archibald Williamson (£10), Miss Pearson (£5), Mrs. S Anstruther Williamson (£2 2s.), Mrs. Russell (£1), Miss Mackie (£1). *Workmen's Scheme:* Pupils, Canelin School, Falkirk, per Mr. Allison, Headmaster (£3 8s. 6d.), Employees, Messrs. D. Thomson, Munition Motors and Engineers, Slateford Road, Edinburgh, per Mr. Clarkston, Manager (£3), Firm, Greenock and Grangemouth Dockyard Co., per Provost Jackson (£2), Women Clerks, Accountants' Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh, per Miss Sutherland (£2), Address to Dalkeith Guild Co-operative Women's Guild (14s. 4d.)	30	4	10
*Worcester W.S.S., per Miss J. M. Randall, Hon. Treas., for upkeep of "Worcester" Bed (Corsica): *Collected by Miss G. M. Randall:* Mrs. Moore (£2 2s.), Mrs. Wilson, Ede (£1 1s.), Mrs. Fyson (£1), Lady Hindlip (£1), Miss E. G. Davis (10s.), Miss Barnett (10s.), Hon. Mary Pakington (10s.), Mrs. Holmes (5s.), Miss Hamilton (5s.), Mrs. Cope (2s.) (£7 5s.). *Collected by Mrs. Tree:* Mr. Ralph Brown (£2 2s.), Lieut.-Col. Arrowsmith Brown (£2 2s.). Mrs. Harrington (£2), Mr. Sievers (£1 1s.), Mrs. Carlton (£1 1s.), Miss Dingle (£1), Miss Curtis (£1), Miss Janet Tree (11s. 6d.), Miss Sievers (10s.), Miss Bird, Ede (10s.), Mrs. Moore (10s.), Mrs. Leicester (10s.), R. Cadbury, Esq. (10s.), Mrs. Day (2s. 6d.) (£13 10s.). *Collected by Miss W. Mowbray:* Miss W. Mowbray (£1), Mrs. Lewis (10s.), Miss F. Norbury (5s.), Mrs. Kane (5s.), Rev. R. N. Kane (2s. 6d.), Miss L. Francis (2s. 6d.) (£2 5s.). *Collected by Mrs. Carlton Rea:* Miss Nicholls (£1), Mrs. Carlton Rea (11s.), Mrs. Watson (3s.), Miss Willar (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Reid (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Mackenzie (1s.) (£2) ...	25	0	0
*Collected by Miss Lucy Soutar & Miss Jean Frances Simpson, for upkeep of the "Jan. Bairns's Birthday" Bed (Royaumont): Mrs. Bertha Fry (£2 10s.); £2 2s. each: The Misses McLean, Miss M. Hill; Mrs. Shields (£2); Mrs. Bertha Fry (£1 1s.); £1 each: Mrs. Charles Gibb, Miss Madge S. Balfour, Mrs. J. R. Dickson; 10s. each: "A January Bairn, Edinburgh," Miss Fraser, Miss Robertson, Miss Thomson, The Misses Waddell, Miss Jane Balfour; Frances Jean Simpson (7s. 8d.); Isabella Frances Brown (7s.); 5s. each: Mr. J. Scott, Mrs. Skinner, Mr. A. W. Duncan, Miss Anderson, Miss Helen Sutherland, Miss C. Carlyle, Miss Allison Mary Hay, Miss Dougall, Misses Grace and Mary McHarg, Miss E. Cappie, Miss A. M. Diffy, M. and Baby Nicolson, Miss Lorimer, Miss Turnbull, Miss M. R. Walker. M. H., "In Memory of a Loving Mother and Sister," Miss Anderson; 4s. each: Miss M. R. Faribairn, For the "Jan. B. B." Bed; 3s. each: "A Jan. Bairn," Miss Kinnear, Miss Kitty Mollison; 2s. 6d. each: Miss Isabella Dickson, Mrs. Weston, Miss M. Goldie, Miss A. Ogilvie Ramsay, Mrs. Hope, Mrs. Agnes Wilson, Miss Effie Hendrie, "Nannie" Golspie, Miss Rolmer Smith, "A Jan. Bairn"; 2s. each: "A. F. G.," A Friend, Miss C. Murray, "A Jan. Bairn"; "A Jan. Bairn of 6 years" (1s.); From Sale of Book (4s.)	24	0	0
Mrs. George Robson	2	2	0
Mrs. Hugh Rone	5	0	0
Mrs. Farquhar	5	5	0
Mrs. Raleigh	0	10	6
Miss McLean	1	0	0
Mrs. Whalley	5	0	0
*Lady Ardwall	1	0	0
*Mrs. Cuthbert	2	0	0
*Brentwood W.S.S., per Miss E. Thompson, Hon. Sec., Balance of Special War Fund	1	0	0
*Gateshead W.S.S., per Mrs. J. T. Dunn, Hon. Sec. ...	2	6	0
Miss E. M. Davidson	1	0	0
*Mrs. Mary E. Brown		10	0
*Miss Isabella Romanes ...		10	0
*Mr. and Mrs. Wood	50	0	0
Mrs. McIntyre	2	2	0
*Wokingham W.S.S., per Miss Powell, Hon. Treas.	2	0	0
J. Wilson Brodie, Esq., ...	3	3	0
Miss Maxwell	1	0	0
Mrs. Crosland Taylor	1	0	0
Miss Pirie		5	0
*Miss E. M. Duncan	1	0	0
*Hyde W.S.S., per Miss Hyde, Hon. Sec. (£2 15s.), Mrs. Jacobs, "In Memory of Ethel Jacobs" (10s.)	3	5	0
*Per Miss Jacobsen, Organiser, S.W.H., Collections made in Galashiels: Mrs. Jas. Sanderson, (£10 10s.), Proceeds of Collection taken in Galashiels Picture House, The Pavilion, on November 16th, 1918 (£4 17s. ½d.), W. A. Sanderson, Esq. (£5), A Friend (£5), Employees, Buckholm Mill, per Messrs. Brown Bros. (£4 10s. 9d.), Employees, Ladhope Mill, per Messrs. Laidlaw & Fairgrieve (£2 19s.), Andrew Fairgrieve, Esq. (£2 2s.), Thos. Fairgrieve, Esq. (£2 2s.), Mrs. Morton (£2 2s.), Mrs. Leslie Dickson (£2 2s.), Wm. Rutherford, Esq. (£2 2s.), Miss J. B. Cochrane (£2), Employees, Dyeworks, per Messrs. Kemp & Blair, Gala Dyeworks (£1 12s. 9d.), Mrs. A Fairgrieve (£1 1s.), Wm. Fairgrieve (£1 1s.), Geo. B Sanderson, Esq. (£1 1s.), Messrs. J. & R. Morrison (£1 1s.), Mrs. Reid (£1 1s.), Mrs. A. Cochrane (£1 1s.), Mrs. Gideon Brown (£1), Mrs. Neill (£1), Mrs. Somerville (£1), Employees, Boni Mill, per Messrs. Adams, Paterson & Co., Timber Merchants (14s. 6d.), Employees, Corporation Grounds, per Mr. Logan (13s. 9d.), Mrs. Anderson (10s.), Mrs. Owens (10s.), Mrs. Gardiner (10s.), D. S. Stalker, Esq. (10s.), Jas. Gardiner, Esq. (10s.), Anonymous (10s.), Mrs. McCaig (5s.), Mrs. Dickson (5s.), Jas. Walker, Esq. (5s.), W. S. Robertson, Esq. (5s.), Mrs. W. Shaw (5s.), J. B. Lumsden, Esq. (5s.), H. Harold G. Lees, Esq. (5s.), Mrs. F. C. Stalker (5s.), Mrs. Macgilvray (5s.), Sums under 5s. (£1 18s.)	64	16	9½
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Lady Stumundie Darling ...	2	0	0
	£354	259	11	2

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"Fisher's Hotel" (Salonica, further 3 months)	Per Mrs. Routledge.
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JANUARY 25.

Westminster — 25, Tothill Street — Labour Research Department Conference on "International Labour Legislation and the Peace Treaty" 3 p.m.

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